IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract on page 29 with the following paragraph:

-- A schedule management system includes a plurality of input terminals configured to input schedule information of a plurality of users, the schedule information including first information identifying a person associated with the schedule information, second information indicating a meeting place, third information indicating a meeting date, and fourth information indicating a purpose of a meeting. A storage apparatus is configured to store the schedule information inputted via the input terminals. A local area network couples the input terminals and the storage apparatus, the local area network being associated with a given business entity. A computer readable medium includes code for storing the schedule information that has been inputted via one of the input terminals in the storage apparatus, code for retrieving non-adjust travel expense information from the storage apparatus, and code for displaying a query to one of the input terminals as to whether or not the retrieved non-adjusted expense information is to be adjusted. --

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1-5 have been amended. New claims 6-7 have been added.

Claims 4-5 were rejected under U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. These claims have been amended.

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garback. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Claim 1 is directed to a schedule management system. The claim recites, "...an external storage apparatus for storing schedule information inputted from said inputting means device of said schedule inputting terminal and travel expense adjustment information representative of whether or not travel expense adjustment has been performed; and said schedule management system further comprises a computer readable medium including: code for a non-adjusted travel expense information search means for comparing said travel expense

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adjustment information and the said schedule information with each other to search for non- unadjusted travel expense information, and code for determining whether or not a user of one of the terminals has indicated that the user wishes to adjust the unadjusted travel expense information."

Garback is directed to computer travel planning system. That is, Garback discloses a method of selecting the most appropriate itinerary based on a transportation fare. Garback does not disclose or teach the concept of "schedule information," in the manner recited in claim 1. The schedule information relates to information relating to a general schedule and is not limited to travel reservation. In addition, Garback does not disclose or teach, "code for determining whether or not a user of one of the terminals has indicated that the user wishes to adjust the unadjusted travel expense information." Therefore, claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 4 is directed to a user terminal and recites "...displaying means for displaying a query to a user as to whether or not the non-adjusted information is to be adjusted." Garback does not disclose or teach this recited feature. Therefore, claim 4 is allowable.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garback and further in view of Whitesage. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Claims 3 depends from claim 1 and is allowable at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~The claims~~ have been amended as follows:

1.   (Amended) A schedule management system comprising a plurality of terminal devices interconnected over a line for performing travel expense adjustment processing, wherein

at least one of said plurality of terminals serves as a management terminal device which manages schedules of users managed in said system on an external storage apparatus;

each of said plurality of terminal devices other than said management terminal device serves as a schedule inputting terminal having an inputting ~~means~~ device for inputting schedule information;

said schedule management system comprising: ~~es~~

an external storage apparatus for storing schedule information inputted from said inputting ~~means~~ device of said schedule inputting terminal and travel expense adjustment information representative of whether or not travel expense adjustment has been performed; and

~~said schedule management system further comprises~~ a computer readable medium including:

_____ code ~~a non-adjusted travel expense information search means~~ for comparing said travel expense adjustment information and ~~the~~ said schedule information with each other to search for ~~non-~~ unadjusted travel expense information, and

_____ code for determining whether or not a user of one of the terminals has indicated that the user wishes to adjust the unadjusted travel expense information.

2.   (Amended) A schedule information management system according to claim 1, wherein said travel expense adjustment information ~~at least~~

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includes <u>first information identifying a person for whom the schedule information has</u> <u>been prepared and second information indicating the date of a business trip, said schedule</u> <u>information including third information identifying a person for whom the schedule</u> <u>information as been prepared and fourth information indicating the date of a business trip.</u> ~~person identification information for specifying a person and information representative~~ ~~of an outwork date, and~~

~~said schedule information at least includes person identification~~ ~~information for identifying a person and information representative of a planned outwork~~ ~~date.~~

3.   (Amended) A schedule information management system according to claim 2, <u>wherein the computer readable medium includes</u> ~~wherein said non-~~ ~~adjusted travel expense adjustment search means~~ <u>code for</u> searching <u>said first information</u> <u>and third information that corresponds</u> to each other, and <u>code for</u> ~~es for a person to~~ ~~whom the person identification information of said travel expense adjustment information~~ ~~and the person identification information of said schedule information coincide with each~~ ~~other and further searches~~ <u>searching</u> ~~for~~ said schedule information <u>having the fourth</u> <u>information which indicates a date that precedes a reference date and said travel expense</u> <u>adjustment information corresponding to said schedule information that has not been</u> <u>completed.</u> ~~wherein the scheduled outwork date has passed prior to the date at present~~ ~~and the travel expense adjustment information represents that adjustment of the travel~~ ~~expenses has not been completed as the non-adjusted travel expense information.~~

4.   (Amended) <u>A user terminal provided in</u> ~~A~~<u>a</u> schedule management system<u>, the user terminal being one of</u> ~~comprising~~ a plurality of user terminals connected to a LAN<u>, the plurality of user terminals being operable to manage schedules of a</u> <u>plurality of user,</u> ~~, characterized in that~~ said user terminals <u>comprising:</u> ~~comprises, in a~~ ~~particular terminal for managing schedules of users who use said terminals in said LAN,~~

an inputting means for inputting schedule information<u>:</u>~~;~~

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a schedule information editing means for editing the schedule information obtained from said inputting means to information in a form for management on an external storage apparatus;

a schedule information storage means for storing the edited schedule information onto said external storage apparatus;

a non-adjusted travel expense information search means for collating, for reference of schedule information, the travel expense adjustment information stored on said external storage apparatus and the schedule information stored on said external storage apparatus with each other to search for non--adjusted travel expenses;

a schedule and message display/reply means for displaying the schedule information and the non--adjusted information on a screen of the terminal;

<u>displaying means for displaying a query to a user as to whether or not the non-adjusted information is to be adjusted;</u>

a travel expense adjustment information inputting means for inputting travel expense adjustment information when non-adjusted travel expenses are detected;

-a travel expense adjustment information editing means for editing the travel expense adjustment information obtained from said adjustment information inputting means to information in a record form or a file for transmission; and

means for transmitting the record or file edited by said travel expense adjustment information editing means to a person or section in charge of processing thereof.

5. (Amended) A schedule management system according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> said travel expense adjustment information search means searches for the travel expense adjustment information stored on said external storage means based on <u>information identifying a person or</u> ~~a name number or~~ information ~~of~~ <u>identifying</u> a <u>trip</u> destination ~~and so forth in addition to the name number~~, and <u>so that</u> ~~thereby~~ said travel expense adjustment information inputting means can input travel

expense adjustment information based on the travel expense adjustment information in
the past.

The following new claims have been added:

6.   (New) A schedule management system, comprising:

a plurality of input terminals configured to input schedule information of a
plurality of users, the schedule information including first information identifying a
person associated with the schedule information, second information indicating a meeting
place, third information indicating a meeting date, and fourth information indicating a
purpose of a meeting;

a storage apparatus configured to store the schedule information inputted
via the input terminals;

a local area network coupling the input terminals and the storage
apparatus, the local area network being associated with a given business entity;

a computer readable medium including;

code for storing the schedule information that has been inputted via
one of the input terminals in the storage apparatus,

code for retrieving non-adjust travel expense information from the
storage apparatus, and

code for displaying a query to one of the input terminals as to
whether or not the retrieved non-adjusted expense information is to be adjusted.

7.   (New) The schedule management system of claim 6, wherein the
computer readable medium including code for receiving an adjustment of non-adjusted
travel expense information from a user while the user is in a business trip and away from
a premise of the given business entity.